

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant	:	Yong Hua Zhu, et al.
Appl. No.	:	10/614,650
Filed	:	July 7, 2003
For	:	DEVICE FOR CLOSING TISSUE OPENINGS
Examiner	:	Melanie J. Hand
Group Art Unit	:	3761

AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING  
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

**Mail Stop Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action transmitted June 19, 2008, in further response to the Advisory Action transmitted November 11, 2008, and in conjunction with the Request for Continued Examination filed herewith, please reconsider the above-identified application in light of the following amendments and remarks.

This Amendment is similar to the Amendment After Final Office Action filed by Applicants on September 19, 2008, but which was not entered by the Examiner. The substantive difference between this Amendment and the previously-filed Amendment is that this paper includes an argument that the amendment to Claim 21 does not add new matter. This Amendment is intended to replace the previously-filed Amendment.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.